

# The Connection

September 2006

The newsletter of the Texas Democratic Women

Issue 14, Volume 3

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Attendees to the July 14th the 2006 TDW Retreat at the Fredonia Hotel and Convention Center began with a meet and greet for the attendees. Host chapter President **Anita Farr** of Nacogdoches chapter welcomed the attendees, followed by TDW State President, **Alieca Hux** introducing the evening speakers Texas Democratic Party Chair, **Boyd Richie** and Regional Field Director and Hopkins County Chair **Bill Brannon**.

**Chairman Richie** spoke to thank all members of TDW for their contributions to the Texas Democratic Party. He also provided updates on the DeLay lawsuit, development of TDP Financial plans, and the slow but improving coverage by the media on Democratic events. He will be participating in a Newsweek magazine article on the upcoming Governor's race.

**Bill Brannon's** message stressed 3 major points. First, the importance for counties to identify voters. This included using available tools such as the VAN (voter) database that can focus efforts to voters on the sometime voter turn out to show up to the polls on election day. Second, the importance of all Democrats to persuade and motivate for voter turnout. Third, stay on message.

Friday's session ended on a light note with several door prizes provided by the host chapter and a "road trip" to nearby Harlon's BBQ for dinner.

Saturday session kicked off with a

## Nacogdoches Welcomes Texas Democratic Women

continental breakfast. Candidate for Comptroller of Public Accounts, **Fred Head** spoke before the group proceeded with a panel discussion led by (L-R) **Anita Farr**, Chapter President (Nacogdoches County), **Gloria Caceres**, TDW Board Member and Chapter President (Coastal Bend), and



**Susie Blackmon** TDW Vice-President (Cherokee County).

The open discussion covered topics such as building membership diversity, increasing participation of members, and chapter fundraising.

During lunch U.S. Senate candidate **Barbara Ann Radnofsky** stopped by to speak to the group. She discussed some recent national issues, the challenges that face women candidates and the imperative for recruiting.



The TDW 2006 retreat concluded with some final door prizes awarded and a silent auction.

Visit the TDW website at  
[www.tdw.org](http://www.tdw.org)

## President's Message



As we move closer to Election Day, **DO NOT** be intimidated by the scare tactics of the Republicans!

⇒ **Stay on message!**

⇒ **Stay focused!**

⇒ **Stand up and tell your neighbors why you are proud to be a Democrat!**

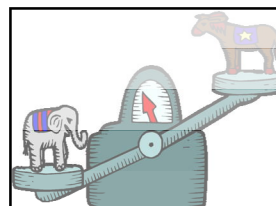
**Together we can begin to Take Back Texas in November.**

These methods are all important in recapturing the state but the most important one is to **GET OUT THE VOTE!** None of this will work with out getting people to the polls. Stay united, continue to work hard, especially on **GOTV** and we will win in November!

Proud to be a Democrat!

Alieca Hux

President, Texas Democratic Women



### MEMBERSHIP REPORT

**CALLING ALL TDW MEMBERS!** Our membership year begins January 1, 2007. Plan ahead and contact your members for renewal, as well as adding new members to your membership roll. Plan a membership event and start 2007 off with a big burst of Democratic energy. Remember, grass roots politics begins at home!

Alieca and I have been on the road again. We visited a very large and enthusiastic crowd of Democrats in Gregg County. It was good to see **Judge Banner** and his wife, **Judy (former Hunt County Democratic supporters)** in the crowd. Hopefully **East Texas Democratic Women** will soon be a part of TDW!

Our next stop will be in Longview on September 9. Start planning your calendars for our convention on February 23-24, 2007 at the Woodward Hotel in Austin. **"GROWING GRASSROOTS STYLE"** will be our focus.

*Marcia Mainord*

Membership Chair and President-Elect



### NEWS FROM THE TREASURER

The Membership Year for TDW is now

**January 1 through December 31.**

Dues paid during November and December roll the next year. The TDW Convention is held in February of each year. Your dues must be paid **30** days before the TDW Convention for you to be eligible to vote.

Wilma Allen, Treasurer

Texas Democratic Women is pleased to welcome **10** new members who joined at the Texas Democratic Party State Convention in June.



### 2nd Quarter Board Meeting

On July 15, after the Retreat concluded, the TDW Board called to order their quarterly meeting.

Various items of business were discussed including the TDW State Convention. The 2007 convention will be held **February 23-24, 2007** at The Woodward Hotel and Convention Center in Austin. Plans are in progress to organize workshops such as officer training, chapter management, membership recruitment and retention, and new candidate training. Preliminary ideas for events to recognize the **20th anniversary** of the TDW organization were discussed.

### GREATER ARLINGTON/MANSFIELD (GAMDW) - Nancy Swartz, Chapter President.

GAMDW recently hosted a fundraiser for **Barbara Radnofsky**, Democratic candidate for US Senator. To do so, GAMDW brought together six Democratic organizations (Ellis County, North Texas, and Tarrant TDW and two local groups) as sponsors. Not only was the fundraiser highly successful, but also the participation of the four TDW chapters as co-hosts laid the groundwork for future joint endeavors across North Texas as we move towards the 2008 elections.

### ELLIS COUNTY - Barbara Fudge, Chapter President.

June & July were busy months in Ellis County TDW. On June 17, the TDW and the Ellis County Democratic Party hosted a question and answer forum for gubernatorial candidate **Chris Bell** to a full house at the TDW headquarters in Waxahachie. We were fortunate to have several officials and other candidates attend as well. *Pictured L-R: State Representative District 6 candidate Kerry Horn, Justice of the Peace Curtis Polk, County Court at Law candidate Cindy Hellstrom, gubernatorial candidate Chris Bell, US Congressional District 6 candidate David Harris, and County Judge candidate Chuck Beatty.*



The next few weeks kept the chapter busy with several parades and festivals, including the Ennis Memorial Day parade, the Waxahachie Juneteenth celebration, and July 4th Crepe Myrtle festival. Between those activities we also held our annual fund-raising yard sale. Thanks to all the TDW members and friends of TDW who contributed items to make the sale a big success.

### CALDWELL COUNTY - Carol Peters, Chapter President.

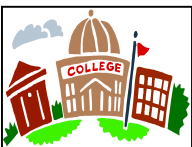
State Representative **Patrick Rose** will speak at our September 11 meeting at the home of member **Joyce Wright** in Lockhart. **Chris Bell**, candidate for governor, will speak at our October 9 meeting at the Lockhart Senior Center on Bois d'Arc in Lockhart. All interested Democrats are invited to attend. For more information and directions, please call 512-357-2627.

### KERR COUNTY - Barbara Young, Chapter President.

On August 25, at the Inn of the Hills in Kerrville. An enthusiastic crowd cheered **Chris Bell** and his message on education, the environment, health care, and meeting the needs of the poor. Following the reception Bell met with members of Kerr County Democratic Executive committee for dinner and round table discussion. Bell ended the day focusing on public education, meeting from Kerrville ISD, **Dr. Dan Troxell**.

### ERATH COUNTY— Marcy Tanter, Chapter President.

On Sept. 7 as many of our state and local candidates attended a Democratic function in Stephenville at City Limits where the keynote speaker will be **Ben Barnes**. We will also be hosting a meet and greet for **Ernie Casbeer**, candidate for state house district 59 on Sept. 17. We are planning to co-host a voter registration drive at Tarleton State University next month and we are working with the Erath County Democratic Party to plan block walks in October. Our chapter rented a booth at the Stephenville Cinco de Mayo celebration this year and attended the State Convention as delegates.



### TARRANT COUNTY - Nancy Stevens, Chapter President

In its June meeting, the Tarrant County Democratic Woman's Club presented \$1,000 scholarships to two young women to help them continue their college educations.



**The Margaret Carter Scholarships** are presented annually to female Democrats who are working on degrees in government, history, or a field of public service, and are who are studying at publicly funded Texas colleges. This year's recipients are **Syvondia Bailey** and **Jamie Martin**. **Syvondia** attends the University of Texas at Arlington, where she is majoring in Criminal Justice. She plans to enroll at the Dedman School of Law at SMU after graduation and dreams of a political career. **Jamie** will complete her Associates' degree this summer at Tarrant County College and will transfer to the University of Texas at Arlington to pursue a degree in History, leading to a teaching career. The scholarships continue the strong Democratic principles of the late **Margaret Carter**, a former club Tarrant County Democratic Woman's club president and a long-time activist in local politics.



Texas Democratic Women  
 PO Box 684906  
 Austin, TX 78768  
[www.tdw.org](http://www.tdw.org)

### TDW MEMBERS

#### MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

#### 2006

**Oct 10** Last day to register for Nov. 7th general elections.

**23** First day of early voting.

**31** Ballot by mail requests must be received.

**Nov 3** Last day of early voting.

**7** *Election Day*

**Dec 31** Submissions/ nominations due for State convention awards.

#### 2007

**Jan 25** Last Day to pay dues for convention voting eligibility.

**31** Deadline for early convention registration.

**Feb 23-24** State Convention: Austin

### *Thank you.....*

To the members of Nacogdoches chapter for their efforts and participation in the 2006 TDW Retreat.



The citizen can bring our political and governmental institutions back to life, make them responsive and accountable, and keep them honest. No one else can.

John W. Gardner (1912-2002) Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare under Pres. Johnson, founder of Common Cause, and author. Presidential Medal of Freedom 1964.

### Change of Contact Information

Send any changes of your contact information to our treasurer and our webmaster:

Wilma Allen  
[wilmaallen@tdw.org](mailto:wilmaallen@tdw.org)  
 and  
 Linda Allen  
[webmaster@tdw.org](mailto:webmaster@tdw.org)

**The Connection** is published quarterly. Send Chapter "happenings" or ideas for stories, columns, or news to...  
[newsletter@tdw.org](mailto:newsletter@tdw.org)

**2006 deadlines for submission of articles**  
 ⇒ **December 7th**